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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231
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New York, New York 10152

In re Application of :
Richard AMELING, et al. :
Application No.: 09/509,921 :
PCT No.: PCT/EP99/05542 :
Int. Filing Date: 30 July 1999 :
Priority Date: 04 August 1998 :
Attorney Docket No.: GK-GEY-1069 :
For: DEVICE FOR TRANSPORTING AND :
HANDLING MICROTITER PLATES :

DECISION ON
PETITION
UNDER 37 CFR 1.181

The "RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT" filed 20 June 2001 is being treated as a petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.181 to withdraw the Notification of Abandonment (Form PCT/DO/EO/909) mailed 13 June 2001 and to accept a copy of the declaration of the inventors attached to the petition as being submitted 26 June 2000. The petition is **GRANTED** as follows:

No petition fee is required.

The evidence submitted by applicants, which includes a return receipt postcard itemizing all the papers filed on 26 June 2000 in connection with U.S. application serial number 09/509,921, is sufficient to establish that a declaration of the inventors was filed on that date. A review of the declaration reveals that it complies with all the requirements of 37 CFR 1.497.

Since applicants timely completed all the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371 for entry into the national stage with the submission of the declaration of the inventors on 26 June 2000, the Notification of Abandonment issued by the Office on 13 June 2001 was mailed in error and is hereby **VACATED**.

Applicants' claim for priority is acknowledged. This application has an international filing date of **30 July 1999** under 35 U.S.C. 363 and a date of **26 June 2000** under 35 U.S.C. 371(c).

Applicants are hereby notified that the \$130.00 surcharge for submitting the

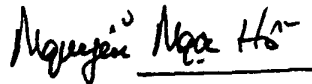
declaration after 30 months from the priority date (fee code 154) will be charged to Deposit Account No.13-0025 as authorized in the Transmittal Letter of 26 June 2000.

The application is being returned to the United States Designated/Elected Office for charging \$130.00 surcharge (fee code 154) will be charged to Deposit Account No.13-0025, and for issuance of a Notification of Acceptance (Form PCT/DO/EO/903) and for preparation and mailing of a filing receipt.



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